

POPTAC Methodology Subcommittee Meeting  
March 22, 2006

The meeting was called to order by David Lillie at 9:36a.m.

A motion was made by Richard Porter, and duly seconded, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2006 meeting. It was unanimously approved without change.

Under the agenda "Report July 1, 2005 Estimates," Jack Tomasik presented his case that the 2005 population estimate for Pinal County is too low and that the projections for Pinal County are too low due to the underestimated population for 2005. Jack said the problem is with the composite method (school enrollment and drivers license data). His solution is to treat Pinal County as part of the urbanized area of Maricopa County and allocate the population to the two counties. See the attached document, "Technical Comments & Request to Revise DES Pinal County Population Estimates & Projections."

Pete Kozy replied by saying that it is better to have two methods to average. Linda Strock said the problem is with the data. There are challenges with Pinal County. The idea of rationing population could be pursued in the coming year. Tom Rex also suggested that the issue be looked at (reallocating population within a two-county area). He also added that it would add population to Pinal County and take away from Maricopa County.

Under the next agenda item, Susan Kanzler said she had no further comments to make about the projection series (2006-2055).

Jack Tomasik talked briefly about migration. He said the migration rate is too low for Pinal County (based on 2003-2005). Jack said the December 2005 population estimate is too low and that population is projected 50 years based on a two-year trend. David Lillie said that could be a problem for other counties as well and not just Pinal County.

Anubhav Bagley asked a question and Susan Kanzler answered (increasing rate for Pinal County and decreasing rate for Maricopa County). Anubhav said the growth rates are similar for the two counties.

Tom Rex said the issue is how to allocate population to the two counties after computing the population of the two counties together. This needs to be pursued this next year.

Tom continued with comments about the projection model.

Jack Tomasik said he is working on a data base containing all housing projects with permission to the developer to build, which would range 600,000-700,000 dwelling units.

Tom Rex said just because the dwelling units are entitled (announced), it does not mean they will be built!

The next agenda topic for discussion was the “2006 Popstats Projects List.” Tom Rex asked Pete Kozy to expound upon each of the items. Refer to the attached list dated March 2, 2006.

Under “Estimates,” item #2, Tom Rex said that “data” are more critical than adding methods [to improve the accuracy of estimates]. Samuel Colon said we could go back to the days of using a state control.

Under “Projections,” item #2, where most of the discussion took place, Anubhav Bagley said on the estimates side, DES should work with the state MVD and education department because we need consistency [with the data series]. Anubhav’s other comment was that the “lag” issue needs to be revisited. Pete Kozy, Linda Strock, Samuel Colon, and Jack Tomasik made brief comments. Jack wants DES to look at the HUM data for Pinal County to address the “completions” issue.

Harry Wolfe made a request for more subcommittee meetings (next POPTAC meeting is scheduled for 9/29/06). Pete Kozy will provide a progress report in the interim. Linda Strock said a meeting date would be scheduled [prior to Sept]. Samuel Colon said his work would be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. A progress report will be posted on the DES website.

Dave Barber asked if the COGs will be consulted on the weighting factor [will be posted on the bulletin board].

Kristen Zimmerman asked about the method for calculating the 2005 population estimates.

Dave Barber asked if DES staff will visit regions. For example, in Casa Grande, there are 80 different subdivisions in unincorporated areas. Linda Strock suggested that staff could attend regional meetings and meet with local officials and elected board members.

David Lillie adjourned the meeting at 10:28a.m.

\*The sign-in sheet shows 18 in attendance. Nobody called in.